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(72) Inventors:
• Jones, Paul William
Rochester, New York 14650-2201 (US)
• Honsinger, Chris W.
Rochester, New York 14650-2201 (US)

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(71) Applicant: EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY
Rochester, New York 14650-2201 (US)

(74) Representative: Haile, Helen Cynthia et al
Kodak Limited
Patent, W92-3A,
Headstone Drive
Harrow, Middlesex HA1 4TY (GB)

(54) **System and method for embedding a watermark signal that contains message data in a digital image**

(57) A method for embedding a watermark signal that contains message data in a digital image represented as a two-dimensional array of pixel values, includes the steps of: providing a dispersed message image having pixel values representative of the message data;

modifying each pixel value of the dispersed message image as a function of the corresponding pixel value in the digital image; and combining the modified dispersed message image with the digital image to produce a watermarked image.

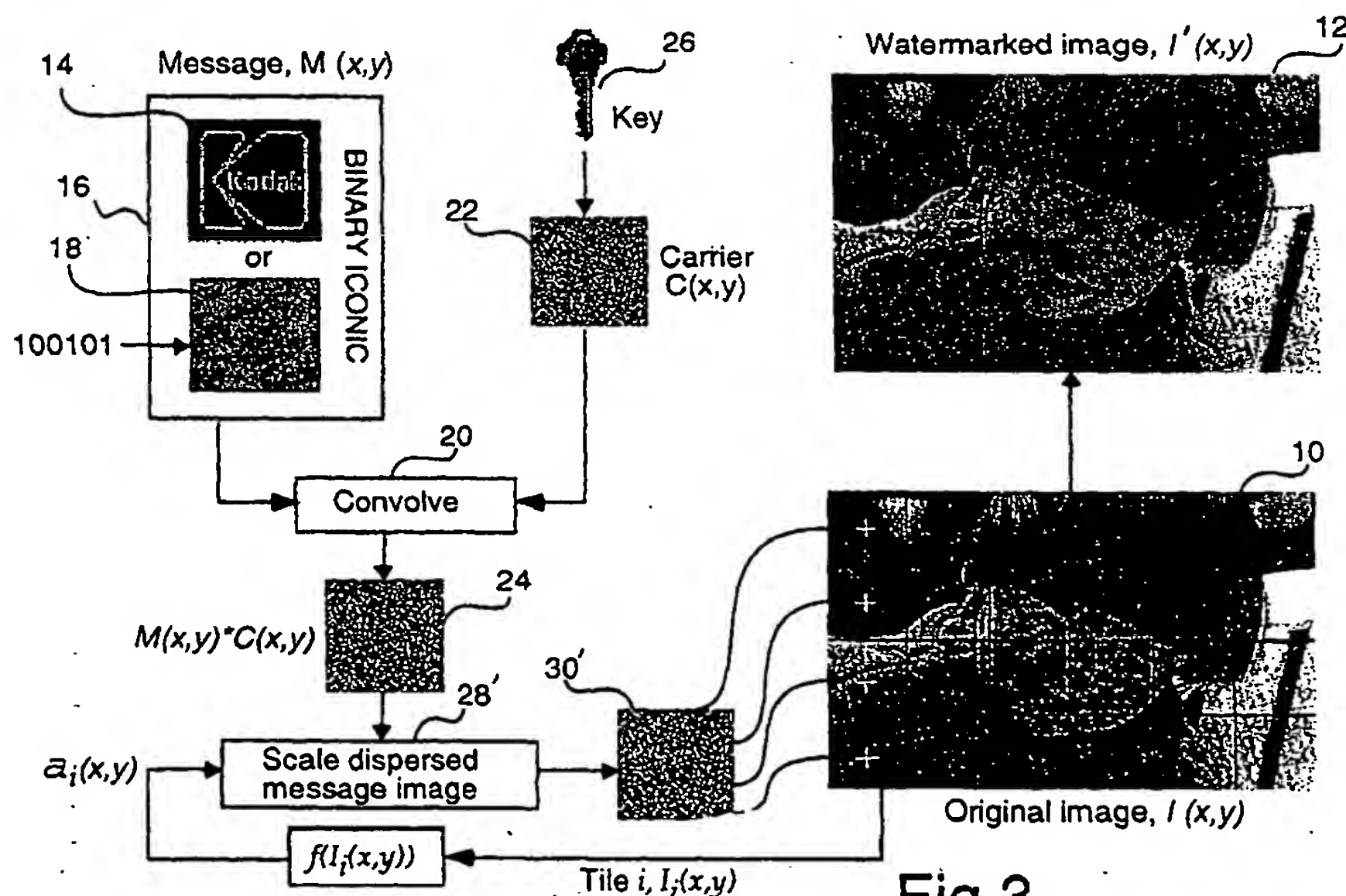


Fig.3



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search BERLIN		Date of completion of the search 10 October 2003	Examiner dos Santos, L
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
BERLIN	10 October 2003	dos Santos, L	
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82